



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/965,075	09/27/2001	Richard G. Hartmann	END920010023US1	3378

7590 03/09/2005

IBM Corporation
Intellectual Property Law (Dept. 917, Bldg. 006-1)
3605 Highway 52 North
Rochester, MN 55901-7829

EXAMINER

NGUYEN, DUSTIN

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2154

DATE MAILED: 03/09/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/965,075

Applicant(s)

HARTMANN ET AL.

Examiner

Dustin Nguyen

Art Unit

2154

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 September 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 09/27/2001.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1 – 28 are presented for examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

3. Claims 12 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

4. Regarding claims 12 and 15, the phrase "optional" or "optionally" renders the claim indefinite because it is unclear whether the limitation(s) following the phrase are part of the claimed invention. See MPEP § 2173.05(h).

5. Claim 28 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being incomplete for omitting essential steps, such omission amounting to a gap between the steps. See MPEP § 2172.01. The omitted steps are: communicating step.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

Art Unit: 2154

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 1-7, 9-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Butts et al. [US Patent No 6,233,543], in view of Faybishenko [US Patent No 5,757,925].

8. As per claim 1, Butts discloses the invention substantially as claimed including a method for character interactive input/output in a half duplex block mode environment including a workstation and a server, comprising the steps of:

automatically transferring said keystroke from said workstation to a server application [Figure 1; and col 10, lines 3-13 and lines 41-53];

said application processing said keystroke and responding appropriate to context of said server application [Abstract; col 3, lines 16-33; and col 7, lines 59-64].

Butts does not specifically disclose

receiving a key stroke into a buffer at said workstation.

Faybishenko discloses

receiving a key stroke into a buffer at said workstation [col 5, lines 15-26; and col 9, lines 26-28].

It would have been obvious to a person skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Butts and Faybishenko because Faybishenko's teaching of buffering would allow to process requests in an orderly and efficient manner.

9. As per claim 2, Faybishenko discloses said buffer being an auto enter, non-display entity on a display screen [col 9, lines 14-39].

10. As per claim 3, Faybishenko discloses said buffer being a non-screen entity accessible to said client [Abstract; and col 12, lines 1-6].

11. As per claim 4, it is rejected for similar reasons as stated above in claims 1 and 2.

Furthermore, Butts discloses defining a workstation display as a 1-byte character input field that has auto-enter and non-displayable attributes [col 17, lines 7-22; and col 19, lines 19-29].

12. As per claim 5, Butts does not specifically disclose communicating an attention signal from said client workstation; responsive to said attention signal, communicating said keystroke from said workstation display to said server application. Faybishenko discloses communicating an attention signal from said client workstation; responsive to said attention signal, communicating said keystroke from said workstation display to said server application [col 9, lines 26-28]. It would have been obvious to a person skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Butts and Faybishenko because Faybishenko's teaching would provide an orderly communicating technique between workstation and server to prevent error due to data lost in communication network.

13. As per claim 6, Butts discloses client and server together becoming a cascaded client to a targeted application server that requires character dependent input/output in full duplex mode [i.e. bi-directional communication] [Figures 1 and 3; and Abstract].

14. As per claim 7, Butts discloses the step preventing display of said input character on said display [i.e. hide] [col 19, lines 19-23].

15. As per claims 9 and 10, they are rejected for similar reasons as stated above in claims 4 and 5.

16. As per claim 11, Faybishenko discloses returning from said remote application to said client a display character for display at said workstation display [col 9, lines 13-22].

17. As per claim 12, Faybishenko discloses an optional echo character which may or may not be said input character [col 9, lines 22-38].

18. As per claim 13, it is rejected for similar reasons as stated above in claims 4 and 5.

19. As per claim 14, it is rejected for similar reasons as stated above in claim 4.

20. As per claim 15, it is rejected for similar reasons as stated above in claim 12.

Art Unit: 2154

21. As per claims 16-25, they are rejected for similar reasons as stated above in claims 1-12.

22. As per claim 26, Butts discloses transferring said keystroke from said workstation to a telnet client and thence to said server application via a Unix server [Figures 1 and 3].

23. As per claims 27 and 28, they are rejected for similar reasons as stated above in claim 26.

26. Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Butts et al. [US Patent No 6,233,543], in view of Faybishenko [US Patent No 5,757,925], and further in view of Shoquist et al. [US Patent No 5,361,199].

27. As per claim 8, Butts and Faybishenko do not specifically disclose the step of operating said client and providing for translation of said character from EBCDIC to ASCII. Shoquist discloses the step of operating said client and providing for translation of said character from EBCDIC to ASCII [col 11, lines 13-20]. It would have been obvious to a person skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Butts, Faybishenko and Shoquist because Shoquist's teaching of character translation would provide device from multiple platforms to efficiently communication with each other without any errors.

Art Unit: 2154

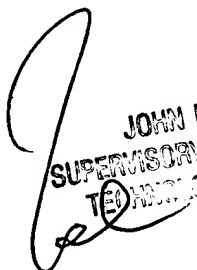
28. A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire **3 (three) months and 0 (zero) days** from the mail date of this letter. Failure to respond within the period for response will result in **ABANDONMENT** of the application (see 35 U.S.C 133, M.P.E.P 710.02, 710.02(b)).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dustin Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-3971. The examiner can normally be reached on flex.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Follansbee can be reached at (571) 272-3964. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


JOHN FOLLANSBEE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100

Dustin Nguyen

Examiner

Art Unit 2154